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# COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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HIGH SCHOOL

## Annual KEES training set for April, May

Our annual Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) training will be held in April and May. KHEAA will use Microsoft Office Live Meeting again this year to facilitate our training sessions. This web-based tool lets you participate from the comfort of your office.

This year's training will include information about improvements KHEAA has made to the KEES web functions and about new KEES data reports that will soon be available for your district. Other training topics will be similar to past years, including an in-depth review of the rules and regulations of the KEES program, how to submit student records and end-of-year files through KHEAA's website, how-to's for correcting errors, information about how and where KEES funds are used for college and more.

This will be an excellent training opportunity for both those new to the KEES program and seasoned pros. Since we will be using Live Meeting, please feel free to extend this invitation to other counselors and coordinators in your school district who come in contact with KEES but have not had the opportunity to attend prior training sessions.

Each session will be identical in content and will last about two hours. The dates and times for training are:

- Thursday, April 10, at 10 a.m. Eastern
- Tuesday, April 15, at 1 p.m. Eastern
- Wednesday, April 23, at 2 p.m. Eastern
- Thursday, May 1, at 9:30 a.m. Eastern

To register, please send an e-mail with your preferred training date to Sheila Hilderbrand at [shilderbrand@kheaa.com](mailto:shilderbrand@kheaa.com) by Friday, April 4. Once your registration request is received, an e-mail invitation will be sent for your session. The invitation will include a link for accessing the training site and a

phone number and participant code for your requested session. If this will be your first time using Microsoft Office Live Meeting, you should enter the training site at least 30 minutes before the start time to install Live Meeting on your computer. Otherwise, you will not be able to view the online portion of the training.

Two hours of Effective Instructional Leadership Act (EILA) credit have been approved for this training. Because our training will be held via the Intranet, those who would like to receive EILA credit must notify KHEAA at the time of registration. An announcement will be made during the training session regarding confirmation of your participation and receipt of your certificate.

Feel free to contact Sheila Hilderbrand, at [shilderbrand@kheaa.com](mailto:shilderbrand@kheaa.com) or at 800.928.8926, ext. 67393 with questions or concerns you may have about KEES or training events.

## 'Counselor Connection' will go to online distribution only

To help reduce the number of paper documents that counselors must keep up with, future editions of the *Counselor Connection* will be distributed online. When the latest edition is posted at [www.kheaa.com](http://www.kheaa.com), counselors who join the listserv will receive an e-mail with a direct link to the *Counselor Connection*. All guidance counselors are encouraged to sign up today to continue receiving important college planning and student financial aid information. E-mail addresses may be provided by e-mailing [publications@kheaa.com](mailto:publications@kheaa.com) or calling 502.696.7381. *LEAN ON US, FROM CLASS TO CAREER.*





## Changes are coming to the Mary Jo Young Scholarship

The Mary Jo Young Scholarship helps with tuition and textbook expenses for high school students enrolled in dual credit classes at a Kentucky college and/or Advanced Placement courses through the Kentucky Virtual Schools, formerly the Kentucky Virtual High School. Award priority goes to students eligible for free and reduced lunches and to first-generation college enrollees.

KHEAA is assuming more administrative responsibility for the program. Students will apply for scholarships and be notified through KHEAA instead of the Kentucky Department of Education.

One immediate change is that KHEAA has moved up the application time frame so students and counselors can be notified of awards by the end of the current school year. **Applications for 2008-2009 scholarships will be accepted through May 1.** Students will need to complete a paper application this year. A copy is enclosed with this newsletter. You may provide copies to students or direct them to [www.kheaa.com](http://www.kheaa.com) to print out their own application. Students taking AP courses will need to complete a KHEAA application as well as register at [www.kyvs.org](http://www.kyvs.org).

KHEAA will send out more information about changes to the program as the year progresses. Until then, if you have questions about the Mary Jo Young Scholarship, feel free to contact Becky Gilpatrick, Student Aid Branch Manager, at [rgilpatrick@kheaa.com](mailto:rgilpatrick@kheaa.com) or 800.928.8926, ext. 67394.

## Summer scholarships available for preparation to be counselors

Some Kentucky schools and communities are experiencing a shortage of counselors that is projected to increase. To help meet the need, scholarship assistance is being offered by the Kentucky Counseling Association.

Those interested in becoming school counselors and who already have an undergraduate degree can get a jump start this summer with help with tuition and textbooks. The association provides grants of \$100 for textbooks.

Each university listed below will provide one tuition waiver (preference will be given to beginning master's students who have earned less than 15 hours):

- Eastern Kentucky University
- Lindsey Wilson College
- University of Louisville
- Morehead State University
- Murray State University
- Western Kentucky University
- Xavier University

Documentation of acceptance by the participating school, an application and a letter of recommendation are required. The deadline for submitting materials is April 15. Go to the Kentucky Counseling Association website at [www.kyca.org](http://www.kyca.org) for further information and an application. The application is available under *KCA Summer 2008 Scholarship Application*.

## Gortney named outreach counselor for west central Kentucky

Summer Gortney is the new outreach counselor for the West Central Kentucky region, which includes Allen, Barren, Bullitt, Clinton, Cumberland, Edmonson, Green, Hardin, LaRue, Meade, Metcalfe, Monroe, Nelson and Spencer counties. She was most recently the outreach services assistant and has been with KHEAA and The Student Loan People for three years.

Summer is a 2004 graduate of Georgetown College, where she earned a bachelor's in communications with a minor in kinesiology. At Georgetown, Summer was a member of the three-time conference champion Lady Tigers softball team. She is working on a master's in public administration at Kentucky State University. "College access is a vital resource to ensure success for Kentucky's future," Summer said. "I am proud to serve West Central Kentucky's college planning and financial aid needs as a representative of KHEAA and The Student Loan People."

